

Holes in the leaves indicate the presence of a larva. Early September would probably be the best time to look for it in a normal year. For detailed description of the larva see P. Chrétien, in *Le Naturaliste* for 1893, p. 65 where the species is referred to under *commelalis* Chrét. — J. M. CHALMERS-HUNT.

PEDIACUS DEPRESSUS (HERBST, 1797) (COL.: CUCUJIDAE)
NEW TO SCOTLAND. — On the evening of 9th July, 1977 at about 21 30 hrs. my wife tubed a single example of *Pediacus depressus* as it walked on the net curtain at the kitchen window of our home at Milton of Campsie, Stirlingshire.

Records of this species have been admirably summarised by Mr. A. A. Allen (1956, *Ent. mon. Mag.*, **92**: 212), further captures being recorded by Moore (1958, *Ent. mon. Mag.*, **94**: 92) from Langley, Buckinghamshire, Johnson (1963, *Ent. mon. Mag.*, **99**: 209) Knole Park, Kent, and by McNulty (1970, *Proc. Brit. ent. nat. Hist. Soc.*, **3** (3): 94) from Suffolk (vice-county or locality not mentioned). To these can be added one further Surrey record—Esher, July 18th, 1977, J. A. Owen, one specimen under oak bark.

All the above records refer to specimens captured in the wild, exceptionally it has occurred under domestic conditions, for example see Fowler (1889, *Col. Brit. Isl.*, **3**: 297) “. . . taken by Mr. Wollaston sparingly, among British stores, on board a yacht at Dartmouth.” Fowler and Donisthorpe (1913, *Col. Brit. Isl.*, **6** (suppl.): 263) refer to a capture in the Sheerness district, in fact the record is for the specimen captured by Donisthorpe in the room of an hotel at Port Victoria.

With regards to the Scottish specimen, it is very unlikely that it was breeding in the house, but the possibility cannot be ruled out altogether. The house was built during autumn 1976, and if a breeding nucleus exists, I would have expected to have found more than one example indoors. The beetle is more likely to have flown in by chance and have been captured while trying to escape. The evening of capture was quite warm, with a gentle breeze, on reflection, an ideal night for evening sweeping. At the back of the house, about 30 yards distant is a deciduous wood, predominantly birch but with some oak, including a prostrate trunk visible from the kitchen window. Beyond this is a larch wood and more broad-leaf trees. Many other woods and plantations are in the surrounding area, including Lennox Forest, and not too far away, Mugdock Wood.

When my wife brought the beetle to me, it was at once recognised as *depressus*, being smaller than *dermestoides*, of more uniform paler coloration and relatively more shining even to the naked eye. The identity was easily confirmed by using the excellent characters given by Mr. Allen (1956, *Ent. mon. Mag.*, **92**: 212). The photographs illustrating the article by McNulty (1971, *Proc. Brit. ent. nat. Hist. Soc.*, **4** (1): 9) are somewhat confusing as they lack any form of scale, but the relative portion of the basal margin of the pronotum in each species is a useful character.

I thank my friends Prof. Owen for allowing me to record the specimen from Esher, and Mr. Allen for confirming my identification. — J. COOTER, Department of Natural History, Art Gallery and Museum, Kelvingrove, Glasgow, G3 8AG.

ABUNDANCE OF ECTOEDEMA SUBBIMACULELLA HAW. (LEP.: NEPTICULIDAE) IN KENT. — During the field meeting of the British Entomological and Natural History Society to Northwood Hill, Halstow, Kent, on the 25th June, 1977, the leader, Mr. M. J. Newcombe and I, happened upon some large oak trees on the higher ground of the reserve, and inspecting a trunk of one, observed several Neps thereon. We saw more, then more, and quickly became aware that the trunk was covered with Neps. Another tree nearby and several others were inspected, and moths in the same profusion found on them also, many *in cop*.

After the excitement of seeing so many, it was decided to do some counting and get a rough estimate of the numbers present. We each counted the moths on a strip of bark approx. one inch wide by six feet in height. Amazingly we both arrived at a figure of twenty-two moths! This gave us around 250 specimens on an area of six square feet. A slight breeze was blowing at the time and the greater proportion of Neps were on the lee side of the trunks. Although we only looked at about seven trees with large numbers of Neps on them, there were many more that could have, and may have had, equally large numbers on their trunks. A genitalia preparation was made of several specimens taken at the time, confirming the identity of the species. — E. S. BRADFORD, 6 Maple Court, Drayton Road, Borehamwood, Herts.

THE CAMBERWELL BEAUTY IN SOMERSET IN 1977. — One was seen by J. K. Comrie in the North Petherton area on 17th April; it was basking in the sun on some shale. — B. W. MOORE, Church Cottage, Batheaston, Bath.

OTIORHYNCHUS LIGNEUS OL. (COL.: CURCULIONIDAE) IN PLENTY UNDER A STREET LAMP, ETC. — Contrary to expectation, perhaps, some at least of the largely nocturnal and flightless weevils of the above genus, which pass the daytime under plants or other ground cover, prove to be strongly attracted by artificial light. Their inability to fly, and the resulting unlikelihood of their often entering most types of illuminated trap, doubtless causes this liking to be seldom observed; but an incident that lately occurred to me shows it clearly.

On the night of 14th August, happening to pass under a street lamp (m.v.) beside a path near here, I paused to glance at a portion of low rough concrete wall below it, and was surprised to see—mostly along the top—rather numerous specimens of one of the smaller Otiorhynchi basking in its rays; some motionless, others moving slowly about. A sample brought home showed them to be, as I suspected, *O. ligneus*